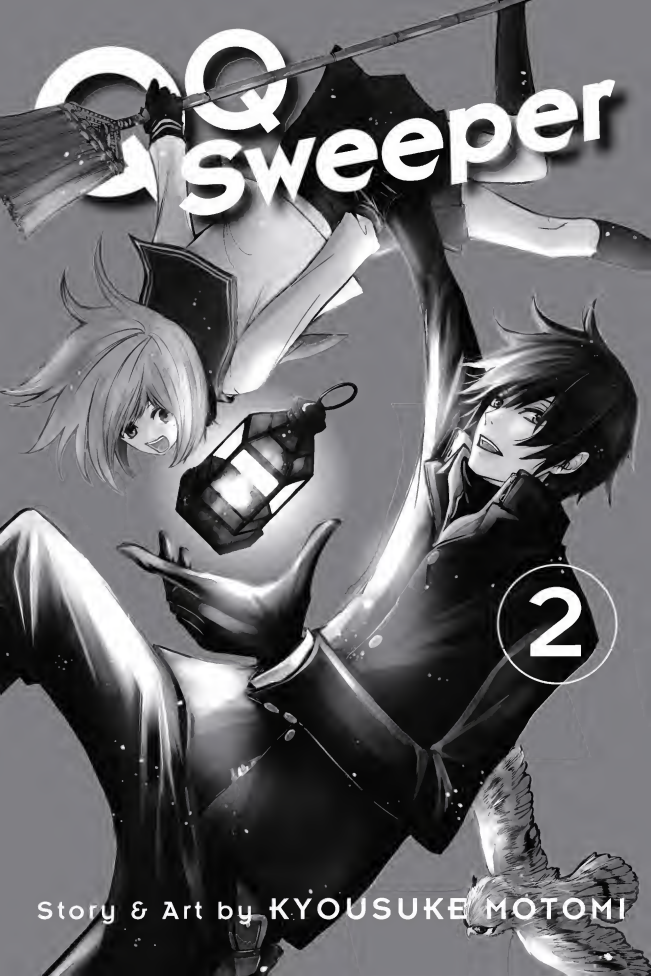


QQ Sweeper

The cover art features two anime-style characters floating against a deep blue night sky. On the left, a girl with short, spiky blonde hair and a blue dress is looking towards the viewer with a slight smile. On the right, a boy with dark, spiky hair and a black suit is looking towards the girl. A glowing yellow lantern is positioned between them. In the bottom right corner, a small owl is perched on a branch. The title 'QQ Sweeper' is written in large, stylized yellow letters at the top, and the number '2' is enclosed in a white circle on the right side.

2

Story & Art by KYOUSUKE MOTOMI



Q Sweeper

2

Story & Art by KYOUSUKE MOTOMI



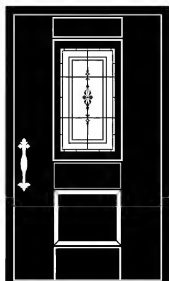
QQ Sweeper

2

Sweep 6 — 3

Sweep 7 — 39

Sweep 8 — 77



Sweep 9 — 113

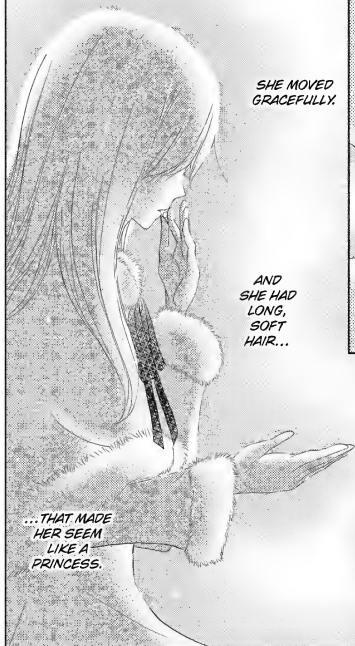
Sweep 10 — 149

SWEEP 6



BACK
THEN...

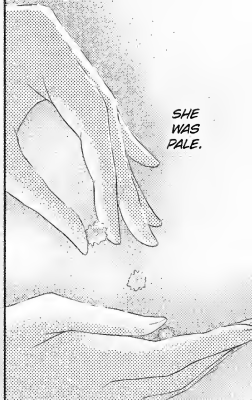
...FLIYU
WAS MY
ONLY
FRIEND.



*SHE MOVED
GRACEFULLY.*

*AND
SHE HAD
LONG,
SOFT
HAIR...*

*...THAT MADE
HER SEEM
LIKE A
PRINCESS.*



*SHE
WAS
PALE.*

*Hello, everyone! I'm
Kyousuke Motomi.
Thanks to all of you, I've
been able to keep working
on QQ Sweeper, and here
we are on volume 2!
I hope you enjoy it.
Thank you!!*



*A broom's
good, but
so is a
scrub
brush!!*





SHE NEVER SAID I HAD GERMS OR THAT I WAS GROSS.

SNOW'S NOT SWEET THOUGH.

IT LOOKS LIKE SNOW...

THE OTHER KIDS ALWAYS TOLD ME I WAS WEIRD...

...BUT FUYU NEVER SAID ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

YOU'VE TASTED IT?

UH-HUH.

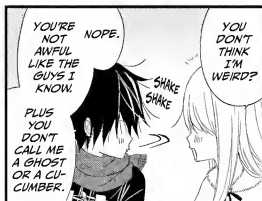
THANK YOU, KYUTARO.



BUT YOU'RE SO NICE.

...IS SCARED OF ME.

EVERYONE ELSE...



YOU'RE NOT AWFUL LIKE THE GUYS I KNOW.

NOPE.

PLUS YOU DON'T CALL ME A GHOST OR A CUCUMBER.

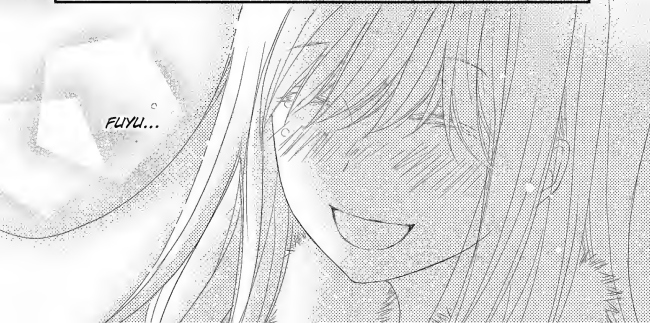
SHAKE SHAKE

YOU DON'T THINK I'M WEIRD?



HUH? SCARED OF YOU? LIKE... LIKE A BUG?

THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. YOU'RE NOT SCARY.



BUT...

...YOU
WERE
ONLY
WITH
ME...

"KYU-
TARO...

"I'M
SORRY.

...FOR
THAT ONE
BITTER
COLD
WINTER.

I HONESTLY
THOUGHT...

...WE'D
ALWAYS BE
TOGETHER.

I THOUGHT
WE'D SPEND
SPRING
TOGETHER...

CAN WE
PLAY
OUTSIDE
IN THE
SPRING?
PICK
FLOW-
ERS?

SURE!
I KNOW
WHERE
TONS OF
FLOWERS
GROW.

...AND
SUMMER
AND
FALL...

REALLY?
CAN YOU
MAKE A
FLOWER
CROWN?

Y-YEAH,
I CAN.

SO
WHY
DID
YOU...?

WHY,
FLYU?

"I'M SO
SORRY..."

YOU SAID
YOU
WOULDN'T
GO!

"GOODBYE..."



トコトコトコトコ

ウーッ

OH!



LOOKS
LIKE
YOU'RE
HAVING A
NICE NAP
DURING
LUNCH
BREAK...

M-
MORNING,
BOSS
KYUTARO.

ANYWAY...
HA HA
HA...



YOU
DIDN'T
TAKE A
PICTURE,
DID
YOU?

N-N-
NOTHING!
JUST...
WATCHING
YOU...
FOR TEN
MINUTES...

N-NOPE...
NO CELL
PHONE...

GROSS!
DON'T
STARE
AT
PEOPLE
LIKE
THAT!



ARE
YOU
KIDDING?

Warning: Even the ogre can
look angelic while sleeping!

I MAY
HAVE
SKETCHED
YOU...

...TO
IMMORTALIZE
THAT
INNOCENT
LOOK.

WHO'S THIS
STONEFACE
SUPPOSED
TO BE?

If you're
gonna draw
me, do it
right!

O/O. Never throw food compost away
without spacing out the water.
- Kyutaro ripped me apart.
- He bit my head off for not cleaning the
broom after sweeping. What an ogre!



I'LL
JUST
BE GO-
MMPH!

GRRAB

HOLD IT!
HOW LONG
HAVE
YOU BEEN
THERE?

WHAT
WERE
YOU
DOING?



I'M
HERE
TO
WORK.

I'D LIKE
TO HELP
YOU
CLEAN
THIS
ROOM.



I worked
hard on
that!

The
nerve...

NO,
I'M
GOOD.

WHAT'RE
YOU
DOING
HERE?

NEED
SOME-
THING?



SO...



...I'M
TRAINING
TO BE A
SWEEPER!

BUT...

DIDN'T I
SAY YOU
DON'T HAVE
TO WORK
DURING
SCHOOL?

HOW
COME?



SCARY
THINGS
HAP-
PENED
HERE...

...BUT
WHEN
IT'S
CLEAN,
I'M
HAPPY.

IT
FEELS...
NOSTAL-
GIC.



AND
BESIDES
...

...I LOVE
THIS
ROOM,
YOU
KNOW?





SOME
PEOPLE
CAN'T
SEE
IT AT
ALL.

RIGHT
NOW I
CAN'T
SEE IT
EITHER.

...ISN'T
ALWAYS
OPEN.

THE
DOOR
TO THE
VOID...

AND
SEEING IT
DOESN'T
MAKE IT
EASY TO
GO IN.



BUT
EVEN IF
YOU CAN
GO IN...
DON'T.

IT
MIGHT'VE
SEEMED
THAT
WAY.

BUT I
GOT IN
EASILY...

Like...
"scuse me,
comin'
through!"



BEYOND
THAT DOOR
IS SOME-
THING...



THE
WORLD
OF THEIR
SUBCON-
SCIOUS.

IT'S THE
INSIDE OF A
PERSON'S
MIND.

...YOU
SHOULDN'T
BE ABLE
TO SEE.



IT'S
DANGER-
OUS IN
THERE.



LIKE
I SAID,
THE
MIND.

THEIR
SUBCO-
?

DON'T
TRY TO
WRAP
YOUR
HEAD
AROUND
IT.



AND IF
YOU
CAN'T
MAKE
IT BACK
OUT...



IT'LL
DRIVE
YOU
CRAZY.
SO WILL
GOING
IN.

THAT'S
WHAT
YOU
NEED TO
UNDER-
STAND.



NEVER
MIND. IT
WAS AN
ACCIDENT.

PAT

JUST
DON'T
DO IT
AGAIN.



BOON

I... I'M
SORRY.

I REALLY
MESSED
UP BY
GOING IN.
HUH?

I DON'T
KNOW
HOW TO
APOLO-
GIZE...



YOU'RE
LIKE
FAMILY,
AFTER
ALL.

I
GUESS
I DO
WORRY.



PROMISE
ME.

DON'T
EVER
DISAPPEAR
ON ME.

I HAD A...
TRAUMATIC
EXPERIENCE
ONCE.



WHEN
YOU DO,
I'LL
COME
TOO.

I WON'T
LET
YOU GO
ALONE.

YOU'LL
PROBABLY
HAVE TO
GO BACK
IN THERE
SOMEDAY.



...OKAY?

SO
PROMISE
ME...



ALL
RIGHT.

I'M FUMI
NISHIOKA,
A SECOND-
YEAR
IN HIGH
SCHOOL.





...AND
WORKING
AS A LIVE-
IN HOUSE-
KEEPER.

FOR ALMOST
A MONTH
NOW, I'VE
BEEN LIVING
WITH THE
HORIKITAS...



I'M
DONE!

IDA!

HOW'D
I DO,
BOSS?

GLEAM



AND YOU
FORGOT
TO POLISH
THE
FAUCET. TRY
AGAIN.

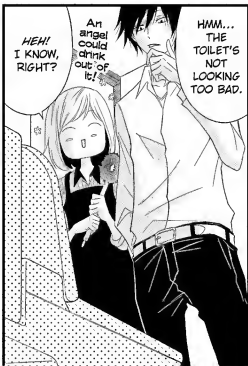
BUT
THE
TUB
ISN'T
GREAT.

YOU'RE
SO
PICKY!

Are you my
wicked
stepmother?

Quit
waving
the brush
around.
It's filthy.

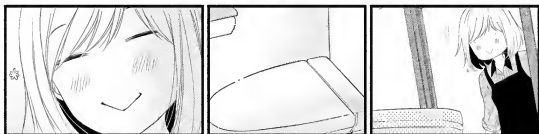
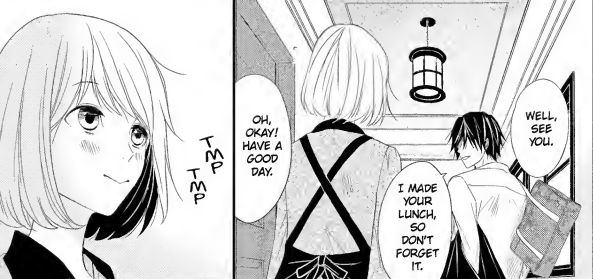
IT'S SLIMY
IN SPOTS.
I TOLD YOU
TO FINISH
BY WIPING
IT DRY, BUT
YOU DIDN'T.

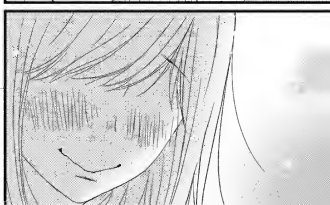


HEH!
I KNOW,
RIGHT?

An
angel
could
drink
out of
it!

HMM...
THE
TOILET'S
NOT
LOOKING
TOO BAD.







...MY
NEW
LIFE IS.

I CAN'T
BELIEVE
HOW WON-
DERFUL...

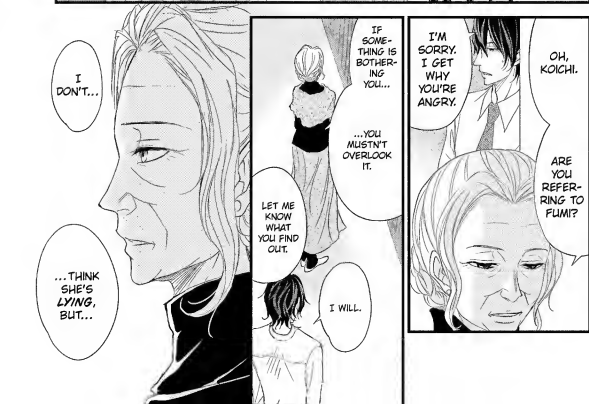


DST DST

HOW'S IT
GOING...



...
SENDAI?



I
DON'T...

...THINK
SHE'S
LYING,
BUT...

IF
SOME-
THING IS
BOTHER-
ING
YOU...

...YOU
MUSTN'T
OVERLOOK
IT.

LET ME
KNOW
WHAT
YOU FIND
OUT.

I WILL.

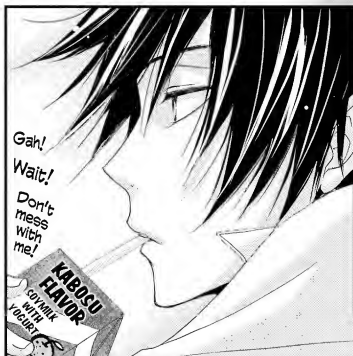
I'M
SORRY.
I GET
WHY
YOU'RE
ANGRY.

OH,
KOICHI.

ARE
YOU
REFER-
RING TO
FUMI?



...THAT
DOESN'T
MEAN...



...SHE
ISN'T
HIDING
ANYTHING.





GYM STORAGE

SIEP

IS THAT A PROBLEM?

I'M SORRY FOR...

...DRAGGING YOU IN HERE.

WAIT, IT REALLY BOTHERS YOU?!

MY KNOCK

HA HA...

WELL... I WOULDN'T SAY PROBLEM...

IT SURE IS!

I'VE DONE MY HOMEWORK ON HIM.

YES...

TOP SECRET

Prince charming files

AS A POSSIBLE PRINCE CHARMING, SO FAR, SO GOOD! BUT...

Male

Ren Shimizugawa
• 178 cm tall 55 kg
• Birthday: June 12
• Gemini, Blood type B
• Family

Hot guy
Brown hair
Good complexion

Notes

REN SHIMIZUGAWA- EXCELLENT STUDENT, GREAT ATHLETE...

LIVES IN THE PENTHOUSE OF A HIGH-RISE CONDO BUILDING...

THAT KINDA STINGS.

YOU KNOW WHO I AM, RIGHT?

A LITTLE BIT.

SHIMIZUGAWA FROM CLASS 3-E?

SIEP



So what're you doing here when you've got a girlfriend, huh? Are you a cheater? I don't wanna get involved in that. No dramatic showdowns for me!

Did I do something...?

S-SORRY. DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT.

HE HAS TO BE DATING SOMEONE.

OTHERWISE, THERE'S SOMETHING UP!



ALWAYS HAS A GIRLFRIEND, NATURALLY- AND EVEN A FAN CLUB.

HE'S SUPER POPULAR. HIS PARENTS WORK IN ENTERTAINMENT.



FUMI NISHIOKA.

UM... WHAT'S YOUR NAME AGAIN?

RIGHT, RIGHT. THAT WAS IT.

LISTEN, FUMI...

MAYBE I WAS BEING PARANOID.

I GUESS IT'S NOT EASY BEING POPULAR.

TH-THANKS.

DON'T TELL ANYONE, OKAY?

I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN HELP, BUT WHAT IS IT?



I JUST WANT TO TALK. I'M IN AN AWKWARD SITUATION.

IT'S EMBARRASSING, SO I WANTED TO TALK IN PRIVATE.



YEAH. SORRY FOR DRAGGING YOU HERE.

PEOPLE TEND TO FOLLOW ME AROUND.

YOU WANT TO TALK...?



... GOING
CRAZY
BE-
CAUSE
OF...

EVERY-
ONE'S
...

... YOU.



... YOU
...

... MADE
ME
THIS
WAY.



THEY
SAID...



BE-
CAUSE
...

...IT'S
YOUR
FAULT.



W-
WHY
...?



NNNGH
...

STARS



IT'S
WHO
YOU
ARE.

**YOU'RE
CURSED.**

THE
CURSE
WILL
FOLLOW
YOU
EVERY-
WHERE.

EVERY-
ONE WHO
KNOWS
YOU...

...GOES
CRAZY.

THEIR
LIVES
GET
RUINED.

BUT YOU
ALREADY
KNEW
THAT.

NO MATTER
WHERE YOU
RUN, YOU
CAN'T EVER
START
OVER.



THERE'S
NO PLACE
FOR YOU.

SO STOP
FIGHTING
IT.

MINICOM

NOTHING
CAN
BREAK
IT.



YOU'LL
ONLY
FIND
PEACE IF
YOU STOP
HOPING.

OVERFLOW
WITH HATE
FOR
EVERYONE.



DESPISE
THE
WORLD.
DESPAIR.

THEN
YOU
CAN—





I...

I'LL
NEVER
GIVE UP
HOPE.

...BUT
THERE'S
GOTTA BE A
PLACE FOR
ME SOME-
WHERE.

MAYBE
IT'S NOT
HERE...

I WON'T.

HEY,
WHAT'RE
YOU
DOING?!

TWITCH

I...

UHH...



WITCH

N-NO, I DIDN'T...

YOU!
WHAT
DID YOU
DO TO
REN?

YOU
DRAGGED
HIM IN
HERE,
YOU
SKANK!



WHAT'S
WRONG?
OH NO,
OH NO
...

EEEK!
OH,
NO...

REN
...!



YOU'RE
UNBELIEV-
ABLE!

REN,
DID SHE
HIT
YOU?

UH...
YEAH.

OH, YOU
EXPECT
US TO
BELIEVE
HE
DRAGGED
YOU?

WATCH
YOUR
MOUTH!
REN'S
NOT LIKE
THAT...



WE'LL
TELL
EVERY-
ONE!
DRIVE
YOU
OUT OF
SCHOOL!

ISN'T SHE
THE NEW
TRANSFER
STUDENT?

SHE'S
CRAZY AND
DANGER-
OUS!

HE
TURNED
YOU
DOWN,
SO YOU
HIT HIM?

NO
...

YOU'RE
OUT OF
YOUR
MIND!

YOU-

SHUT
UP!



I NEED
TO CLEAN
IN HERE.
BEAT IT.

I'M HORI-
KITA FROM
THE BEAU-
TIFICATION
COMMITTEE.
THIS IS A
STORAGE
ROOM.



WHAT,
ARE YOU
PROTECT-
ING HER?

WE'RE
SENIORS!
DON'T
BOSS US
AROUND!

AND I
NEED TO
CLEAN.
LEAVE.

SHUT
UP!

RAGH
RAGH
RAGH

CAN'T
YOU
SEE
WE'RE
BUSY?

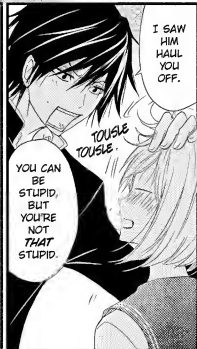
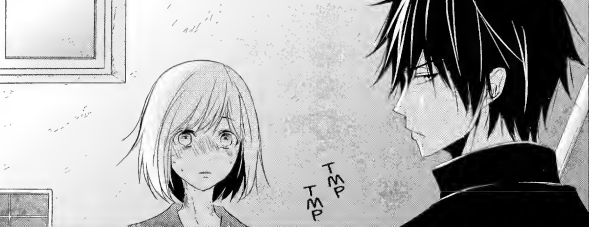
I
KNOW
THAT!

HORI-
KITA
FROM THE-

WHO
DO YOU
THINK
YOU
ARE?

ANSWER
ME!







DID HE
CHOKE
YOU?!

HEY...



PAT
PAT

I'M
SORRY...

I
SHOULD'VE
MOVED
FASTER.



YOU
MUST'VE
BEEN SO
SCARED...



"EVERYONE WHO KNOWS
YOU GOES CRAZY."

AFTER A
MONTH
LIVING
WITH THE
HORIKITAS

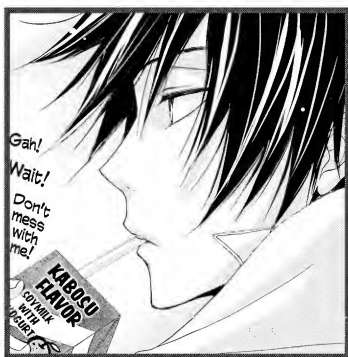
...



...I'D LET
MYSELF
BELIEVE...

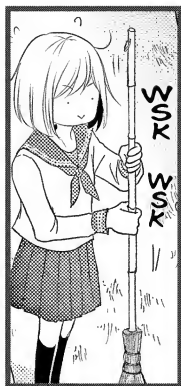
"YOU'RE CURSED."

...THAT I'D
STARTED A
WONDERFUL
NEW LIFE.





SWEEP 7





My cleaning robot is made by S company. I picked that particular one because it talks. It's a useless feature, honestly, but it's fun. The robot butts in on its assistants' conversations! It's annoying but cute.



← It's irritating when it says this and I have a deadline.

There's a panel in Sweep 6 where you may have noticed a cleaning robot. You might be surprised to see professional cleaners using a robot, but I think pros would be more likely to use robots—they'd know how convenient robots are! Personally, I saved up and bought one for myself, and it works so hard! My room gleams! It probably works a thousand times harder than this author...



OH.

HI,
KYU-
TARO.



OH! YES.
SORRY
FOR WOR-
RYING
YOU...

NISHI-
OKA

...
ARE
YOU
OKAY?



...AND
FOR
BEING
SO
UPSET
EARLIER.

BUT I'M
FINE NOW,
HONEST.



THE
USUAL
HERBAL
TEA
OKAY?

WE
WERE
OUT OF
VERBENA,
SO I CUT
SOME.

THANK
YOU,
KYUTARO.

I'M
SORRY
YOU
HAD TO
GO OUT
IN THE
RAIN.



AND YOUR
RESPONSES
ARE ALL
CLEAR.
YOU'RE A
STRONG
GIRL.

HMM...
YOUR
VITALS
ARE
GOOD.



AND
KYUTARO
MAKES
IT SO
WELL.

HAVE
SOME
TEA,
FUMI.
IT'S
CALMING.



YES, OF
COURSE.

MAY I ASK
YOU A BIT
MORE
ABOUT WHAT
HAPPENED?



BUT I
DON'T
WANT YOU
TO OVER-
EXERT
YOURSELF.



EARLIER
TODAY,
AN
OLDER
GUY...

...GRABBED
NISHIOKA
AND
CHOKED
HER.





FOR A
SECOND
...

...THERE
WAS...
...SOME-
THING
LIKE A
BLACK
BEE...



DID
YOUR
SIGHT
SHOW
YOU
ANY-
THING?

MAYBE
BEHIND
HIM OR
CLOSE
BY?



... SENIOR
REN
SHIMIZU-
GAWA,
RIGHT?

THAT
BOY
WAS...

Y-
YES.

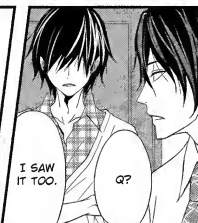


AS THE
INFESTATION
SPREADS,
THE HOST
WILL SOME-
TIMES HAVE A
FIT AND LOSE
CONTROL OF
HIMSELF.

VIOLENT
AND EVEN
BERSERK
BEHAVIOR IS
A COMMON
SYMPTOM OF
INFESTATION.



HMM.
I SEE.



I SAW
IT TOO.

Q?



THAT
GUY'S
INFESTED.

I'M
SORRY...

012010

DID
HE SAY
ANYTHING
THAT
BOtherED
YOU?

DID
ANYTHING
STRANGE
HAPPEN
AROUND
THEN?

WHAT
COULD
HAVE
SET IT
OFF?

I DIDN'T
MEAN TO
CAUSE
PROBLEMS
FOR YOU.

IT
WAS
MY
FAULT.

KOICHI,
THAT'S
ENOUGH
FOR TODAY.

SORRY
FOR
PUSH-
ING YOU,
FUMI.

O-OF
COURSE.

WE'RE
SWEEPERS,
BUT THAT
DOESN'T MEAN
INFESTATIONS
ARE EASY FOR
US TO DEAL
WITH. AND
YOU'RE STILL
A NOVICE!

I'm
sorry.
Did I
sound
harsh?

OH
...

HUH?
N-NO,
I DIDN'T
MEAN
THAT.

I WASN'T
BLAMING
YOU.

CAN WE TALK AGAIN AFTER YOU'VE HAD A CHANCE TO RELAX?

UH...

I WANT YOU TO REST UP.

FUMI, YOU HAD QUITE A DAY.

WHATEVER THE CAUSE, WE NOW HAVE A PATIENT TO TREAT.

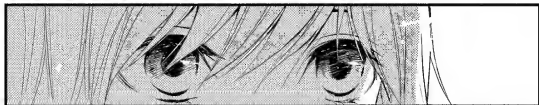
KYUTARO, PREPARE YOURSELF.

RIGHT.

I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU MORE ABOUT TODAY...

...AND ABOUT SOME OTHER THINGS.

OH, AND ...



WELL, GOOD NIGHT THEN.

GOOD NIGHT!

SORRY I DIDN'T GET MUCH DONE TODAY.

DON'T WORRY.

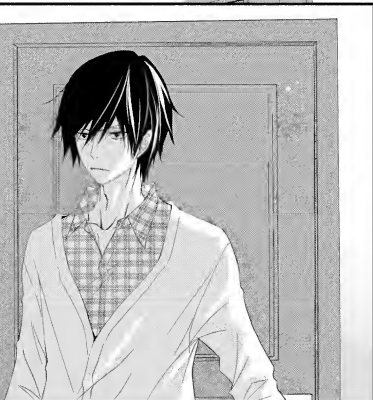
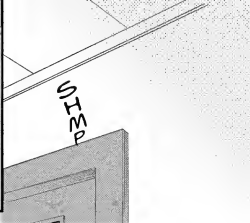
TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.

I WILL. THANK YOU.

SURE! ABSOLUTELY!

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP!

AH— YOU'RE WELCOME.







DO YOU
THINK YOU
ALWAYS
HAVE TO
SEEM
HAPPY
AROUND
ME?



WHAT
ARE YOU
HIDING?

DON'T ACT
LIKE WE'RE
STRANGERS.
IT'S WEIRD.

IS THERE
SOMETHING
YOU CAN'T
TELL ME?

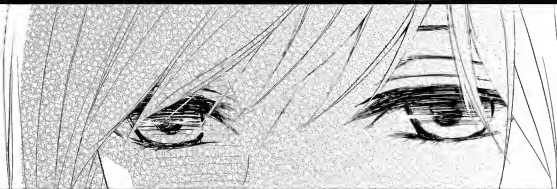






"IS THERE SOMETHING
YOU CAN'T TELL ME?"

"WHAT ARE YOU HIDING?"





"NO
MATTER
WHERE
YOU RUN,
YOU CAN'T
EVER
START
OVER."

"BUT YOU
ALREADY
KNEW
THAT."

"YOU'LL
ONLY
FIND
PEACE
IF YOU
STOP
HOPING."



"YOU
MADE
ME THIS
WAY."

"EVERY-
ONE'S
GOING
CRAZY..."

"...BECAUSE
OF YOU."



"STAY
AWAY
FROM
US!"

"WHAT
DID WE
EVER
DO TO
YOU?"

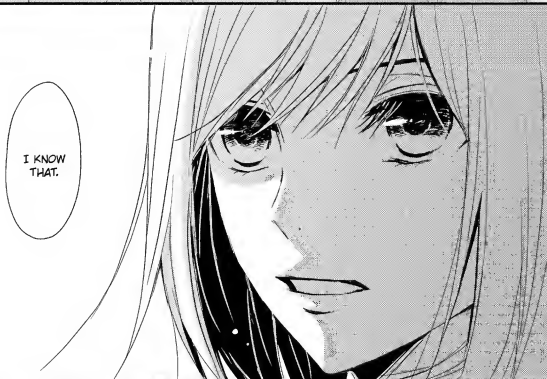
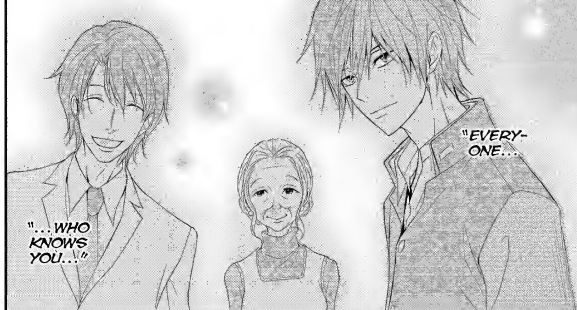
"PLEASE!
LET US
GO BACK
TO OUR
NORMAL
LIVES."

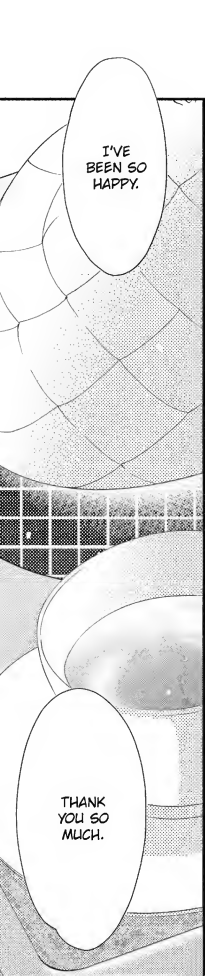


"YOU'RE
CURSED."

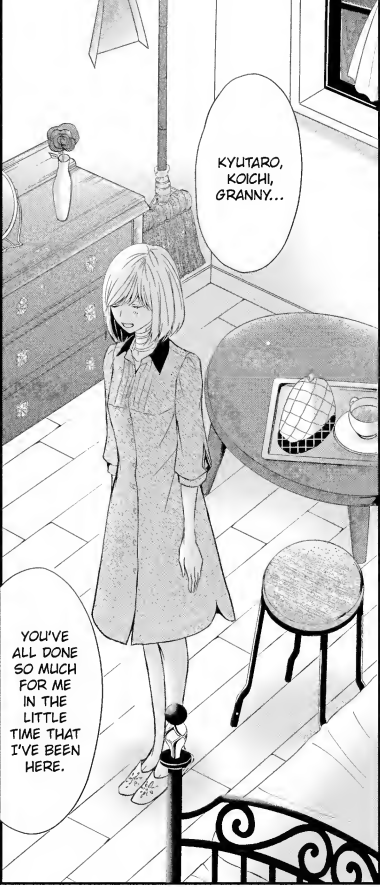
"EVERY-
ONE WHO
KNOWS
YOU..."

"THEIR
LIVES
GET
RUINED."





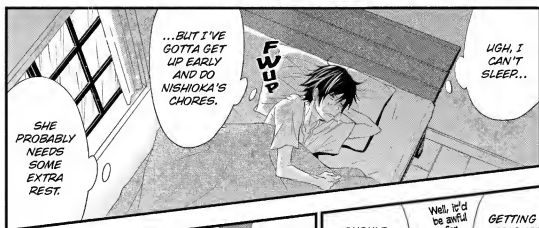
I'VE
BEEN SO
HAPPY.



KYUTARO,
KOICHI,
GRANNY...

YOU'VE
ALL DONE
SO MUCH
FOR ME
IN THE
LITTLE
TIME THAT
I'VE BEEN
HERE.

THANK
YOU SO
MUCH.





GAH!

ARGH!

SHE'S
SO MUCH
TROUBLE.

WHY AM I
OBSESS-
ING ABOUT
THIS?
IT'S NOT
THAT BIG A
DEAL!



HAVING HER
HERE FOR
THE PAST
MONTH HAS
TURNED
OUR LIVES
UPSIDE
DOWN.

SO MUCH
TROUBLE...

Ow!



SHE SAYS
WEIRD STUFF...
SHE DRAWS
REALLY WEIRD
STUFF...

SHE'S
ALWAYS AT
MY HEELS,
CALLING ME
"BOSS"
AND DOING
UNNECESSARY
STUFF.

SHE'S A
SHAMELESS
LITTLE MISS
SUNSHINE, AND
SHE'S ALWAYS
GIGGLING...

I've got
info on a
bunch of
guys who
could be
my Prince!
Charming!

Heh!
Look,
Boss!

SHE'S NOT
EVEN GOOD
AT CLEANING.
AND SHE
TALKS BACK
SOMETIMES!



"Um..."

"Um...
KYUTARO..."

"I DIDN'T..."





"EVERYONE
CALLS ME—

"I HAVE
NOWHERE
ELSE TO
GO."



"PLEASE
DON'T,
BE MAD."

"I'M SORRY,
FOR COMING
IN WITHOUT
ASKING."



...IT
REMINDED
ME OF
WHEN I
FIRST MET
FUYU.

OH!!,
THAT'S
WHAT
IT IS.

WHEN I
SAW HER
CRYING...



THEY
THINK I
WAS SO
LONELY
I IMAG-
INED HER.

BESIDES,
FUYU
MIGHT
NEVER
HAVE
EVEN
EXISTED.

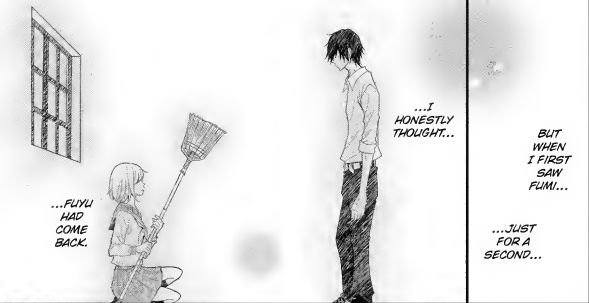
FUMI IS FUMI,
AND FUYU
WAS FUYU.

THEY'RE
DIFFERENT
PEOPLE.



WHY AM I
HUNTING
FOR SIMI-
LARITIES?

WHY?
THEY
DON'T
LOOK
ALIKE...

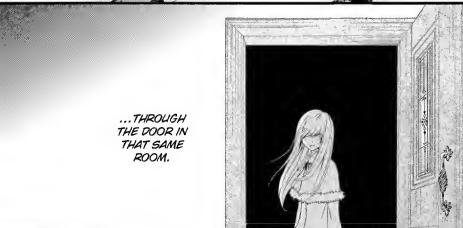


...FUYU
HAD
COME
BACK.

...I
HONESTLY
THOUGHT...

BUT
WHEN
I FIRST
SAW
FUMI...

...JUST
FOR A
SECOND...



...THROUGH
THE DOOR IN
THAT SAME
ROOM.

I MEAN, FUYU
DISAPPEARED...



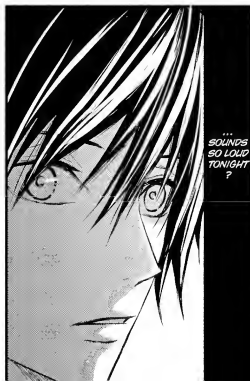
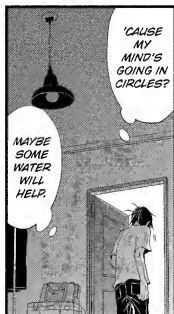
"I'M SORRY..."



"GOODBYE."

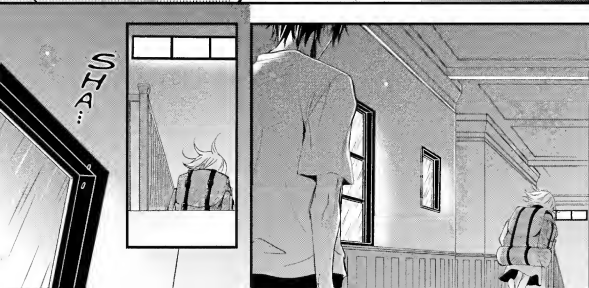
"...KYUTARO."

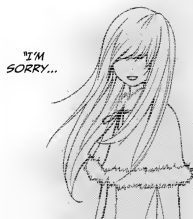












WHY?



THAT
IDIOT!

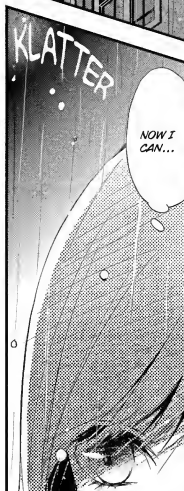
SHE
HOPES
I'LL
FORGIVE
HER?

LIKE
HECK
I WILL!



ARE YOU
FREAKIN'
KIDDING ME?!
WHAT DO
YOU MEAN,
"GOODBYE"?

I'M NOT
OKAY
WITH
THIS AT
ALL!

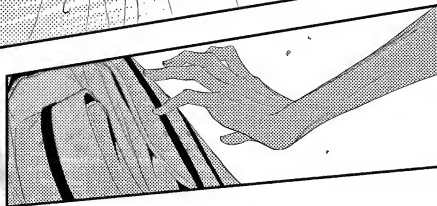








...
FUMI!



TACKLE







WHAT'VE
YOU BEEN
HIDING FROM
US THAT
WOULD MAKE
YOU WANT
TO RUN
AWAY LIKE
THIS?

JUST...
TELL ME
WHY.



CRYING
WON'T
HELP

TELL
ME.



**WELL,
SPIT
IT
OUT!**

IF YOU
TELL ME,
I'LL GO
EASIER
ON YOU.

I
WISH
IT
WERE
THAT...
*That'd
be
cool.*

HOLD
YOUR
HEAD UP!
YOUR LIFE
IS YOUR
OWN.

IS
IT A
GUY?

NO...
IT'S
WORSE.

ARE
YOU IN
DEBT OR
SOME-
THING?

WHY
NOT
JUST
SAY
IT?





THERE'S
ALWAYS
**SOME-
ONE**
WHO
SAYS IT.

AND...

A
"CURSED
GIRL."

SH...
...

DID YOU
SAY
CURSED?



IT'S
WORST
FOR THE
PEOPLE...

...CLOSE
TO ME,
SO...

...BAD
THINGS
REALLY DO
HAPPEN
AROUND
ME!

ACCIDENTS,
HUGE
FIGHTS...
PEOPLE'S
PERSONALITIES
CHANGE!



"EVERYONE
CALLS
ME—

"I'M SORRY
FOR COMING
IN WITHOUT
ASKING.

"PLEASE
DON'T
BE MAD.





"EVERYONE
CALLS ME
A CURSED
GIRL."



IT'S NOT POSSIBLE, BUT... MAYBE...



KYUTARO
...?

YOU'RE HER, AREN'T YOU?





SWEEP8

I'LL
PROBABLY
NEVER
SEE YOU
AGAIN...

...I
COULDN'T
HANG ON
TO YOU.

ALL
THOSE
YEARS
AGO...

...BUT
IF I
EVER
DO...

...I'LL
NEVER,
EVER...

I'VE HAD
NIGHTMARES
ABOUT IT
EVER SINCE.
I REGRET IT
SO MUCH...

FUYU...

Verbena, which is mentioned in Sweep 7, is an herb. It has a beautiful, lemony fragrance. I think you'd like it, even if you're not used to herbal teas. I read that it's very popular in France! (It's also called vervain.) I wish they'd sell it in local supermarkets here in Japan.

It's growing in my yard! I don't take care of it at all, though. (I'm sorry.) It just grows wild.

During the summer, the grasshoppers gobble it up. I know it's probably tasty, but I wish you'd leave it alone, grasshoppers...





THAT'S
WHAT
FUYU
SAID
TOO.

A
"CURSED
GIRL"...

"EVERYONE
CALLS ME
A CURSED
GIRL."

I RE-
MEMBER
THAT SO
CLEARLY.

SO DOES
THAT
MEAN...?

KYUTARO
...





THEY'RE
SO DIFFERENT.
BESIDES
...

THIS
ISN'T
FLYU.

PLEASE
...

...LET
GO OF
ME.

KYU-
TARO.

NO.

IT
CAN'T
BE.



...SHE
DIDN'T
KNOW
WHO I
WAS.

"WHO
ARE
YOU?"

...WHEN
WE
FIRST
MET...



"AND YET?"
"AND YET?"
WHAT?

QUIET.

LET
GO...

I CAN'T
BREATHE,
KYUTARO.

THEY'RE
DIFFERENT
...



SOME-
THING'S
WRONG
WITH
ME.

I
WON'T
LET
YOU.

...
YOU'LL
RUN
AWAY
AGAIN.

IF I
LET
GO...

...AND
YET...







I'LL
LISTEN
TO YOUR
STORY
AND EXCUSES
...

...IN
THERE.



KYU-
TARO.



GET
IN THE
HOUSE.

DIDN'T
I MAKE
MYSELF
CLEAR?

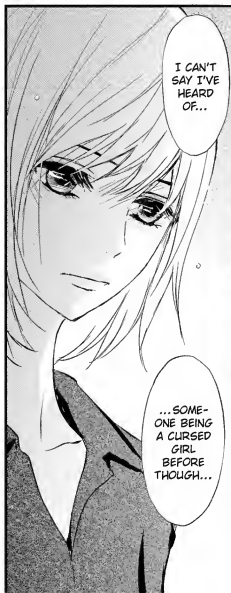


STAY...

OPEN
UP THE
PARLOR
AND
GET IT
READY.

SIA...

SPLSHH...



...AND SAY THEY DIDN'T BELIEVE IT.

"YOU'RE A GOOD GIRL, FLUM."

"WE DON'T BELIEVE IN CURSES."

AT FIRST, PEOPLE WOULD BE KIND...

IT ALWAYS CHANGED THEM.

...WHO HAD THE WORST LUCK AND SUFFERED MOST.

BUT IT WAS ALWAYS THOSE PEOPLE ...

RUMORS ALWAYS START SPREADING.

...OR WHAT I DO, SOMEONE SAYS IT.

I KNOW HOW LUDICROUS IT SOUNDS...

...BUT IT'S TRUE. NO MATTER WHERE I GO...



YOU DON'T KNOW ...?

THE TRUTH IS...

UM...

I DON'T ACTUALLY KNOW.

THAT'S ENTIRELY UNREASONABLE.

HAS IT BEEN THIS WAY YOUR WHOLE LIFE?



MY
EARLIEST
MEMORY
IS FROM
ONLY TEN
YEARS
AGO.



SHE HAS NO
MEMORY?

BUT...TEN
YEARS AGO
IS WHEN
THAT ALL
HAPPENED!

IS THAT WHY
SHE DIDN'T
RECOGNIZE ME?

IF
THAT'S
THE
CASE...



N...

WHAT'S
WRONG
?

NOTHING,
IT
JUST...

...
SLIPPED
...



I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
HAPPENED
TO ME BACK
THEN, BUT-

CRASH





"YOU'RE CURSED.

"NO
MATTER
WHERE
YOU RUN,
YOU CAN'T
EVER
START
OVER.



...THE
BUG
ON HIM
SAID IT.

WHEN
SHIMIZU-
GAWA WAS
CHOKING
ME...



"STOP
FIGHT-
ING IT."



EVEN
SHIMIZU-
GAWA
SAID...

... "YOU
MADE
ME THIS
WAY."



... YOU
ALL
WEL-
COMED
ME...

... AND MY
QUIRKS
INTO
YOUR
HOME.

I'VE
BEEN
SO
HAPPY
HERE.



... I
DON'T
KNOW
WHY,
BUT...

MEAN-
WHILE...

I THINK
IT'S
PROBABLY
TRUE.



I NEVER,
EVER...

...WANT
THAT TO
HAPPEN.

BUT FROM
EXPERIENCE,
I KNOW
THAT YOU
THREE...

...ARE
THE
PEOPLE
WHO'LL
SUFFER
THE
MOST.



...BUT
PLEASE,
PLEASE
LET ME
GO NOW.

I KNOW
IT'S RUDE
OF ME
TO LEAVE
LIKE
THIS...



NOT
REALLY.

UH...
WELL
...

BUT I
THINK
I'LL BE
FINE.

I UNDER-
STAND
YOUR
REASON-
ING...

...BUT
TELL
ME...

DO YOU
HAVE
ANY IDEA
WHAT
YOU'LL DO
NOW?





THAT'S
NOT
WHAT I'M
ASKING.



AND IF
I KEEP
LOOKING
HARD...

...I'LL
FIND A
WAY TO
BREAK
THE
CURSE-



I'LL
BE
FINE.

I'M
WELL
TRAINED
!

I CAN
SURVIVE
ALONE
ALMOST
ANY-
WHERE.



DO
YOU
THINK
...

...WHO
WOULD
RUN OUT
ON US AT
ANY
MOMENT?

...THAT
WE HIRED
YOU LIKE
SOME KIND
OF PET...



WHAT
ABOUT
SHIMIZU-
GAWA?

GASP

YOU SAY
IT'S YOUR
FAULT HE'S
SUFFERING.

IS
RUNNING
AWAY
MORE
IMPORTANT
TO YOU
THAN
HELPING
HIM?



OR WAS
THIS A
SILLY
LITTLE
JOB FOR
YOU?

N-
NEVER...

BE-
SIDES
...



WE HIRED
YOU AS A
SWEEPER.
YOU HAVE
RESPONSIBILITIES.

DON'T
YOU
UNDER-
STAND
THAT
WE'LL
HAVE
TROUBLE
WITH-
OUT
YOU?



YOUR
"CURSE"
HAS MADE
LIFE PRETTY
EASY FOR
YOU, HASN'T
IT?

WHEN
THINGS GET
TOUGH, YOU
DITCH YOUR
RESPONSIBILITIES
AND RUN
AWAY, HUH?



HUSH.



DIDN'T
YOU
HEAR A
WORD
SHE
SAID?

KOICHI!!
WHAT IS
WRONG
WITH
YOU?!

KYU-
TARO
...

WHUP



I WON'T
TELL YOU
TO STAY.

ONCE YOU
DO THE
BARE
MINIMUM
REQUIRED...

...OF A
SWEEPER,
YOU CAN
GO.



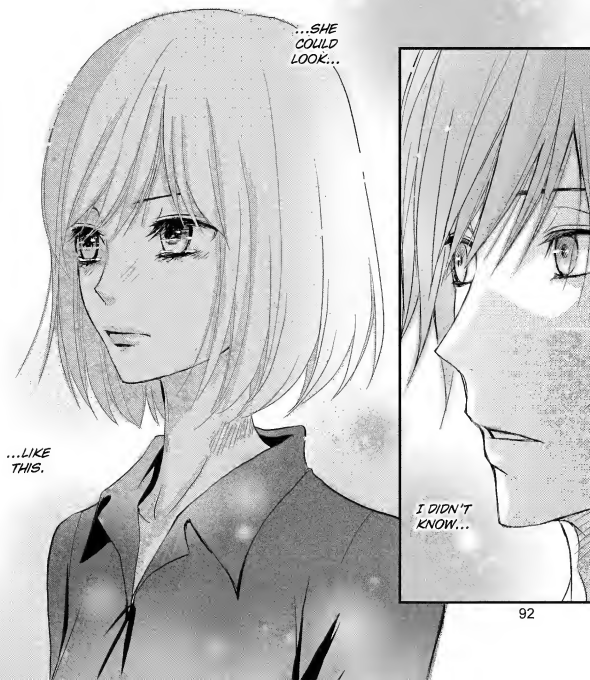
WE WILL
BEGIN
WORK ON
SHIMIZU-
GAWA'S
INFESTATION
TOMORROW.

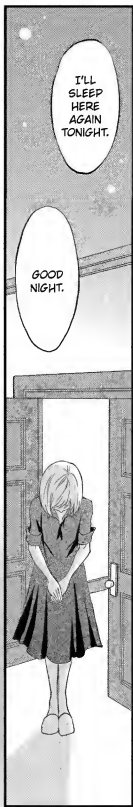


I
UNDER-
STAND
WHY
YOU'RE
ANGRY.



I'VE
BEEN
UNFOR-
GIVABLY
RUDE.







I'M
COUNTING
ON YOU,
Q.

LET'S
HELP
HER.



BUT SHE
HAS TO
REALIZE
THAT
HERSELF.

THERE'S
NO REASON
FOR HER TO
LEAVE.



IF SHE
REALLY IS
CURSED,
THAT'S
RIGHT UP
OUR ALLEY.



AND TO
LET THAT
HAPPEN...

THAT'LL
CONVINCE
HER
FASTER
THAN
ANYTHING
WE COULD
SAY.

...SHE
HAS TO
EXPERIENCE
THIS JOB
AT LEAST
ONCE.



PAT
PAT

Good
boy.



I'M
SORRY,
YOU'RE
RIGHT.
I'LL
APOLOGIZE
PROFUSELY
I WAS
TO HER
CRUEL.
LATER.

OW!

IT WAS A
GROWN-UP
TRICK! IF I'D
BEEN GENTLE
AND ASKED
HER TO STAY,
IT WOULDN'T
HAVE
WORKED!

OUCH
!



Seriously,
if you keep
it up I'll
never get
back to
sleep!

THAT HURTS!
THE SKIN
UNDER MY
ARM IS
TENDER!
STOP
PINCHING!



O-O-KAY.
THANKS.

YOU DID
A GOOD
JOB
TODAY.

I'LL
BE GOING
WITH YOU
TOMOR-
ROW.



...I WANT
YOU TO
TEACH
HER THE
BASICS.

BUT...

FUMI IS
PROBABLY
FEELING
ADRIFT.



KYU-
TARO.

Huh?



DON'T
LET HER
OUT OF
YOUR
SIGHT.
YOU
MUST
PROTECT
HER.

YOU'RE
THE ONLY
PERSON
SHE FEELS
SHE CAN
DEPEND
ON.



BACK
THEN...



TEN
YEARS
AGO...
...YOU
ALL
WENT
OFF ON A
TRIP FOR
A WHILE,
REMEM-
BER?

AND
I WAS
HOME
ALONE.



LISTEN,
GRANNY...



I'M
GOING
TO BED.
NIGHT.



ANOTHER
TIME.

SORRY,
NEVER
MIND.



I
THINK...



IT
WASN'T
WHAT
I EX-
PECTED.

I DON'T
KNOW
ABOUT
"SPOT-
ON."

I don't
have to
sneak
around
to
investi-
gate
her. Whew!

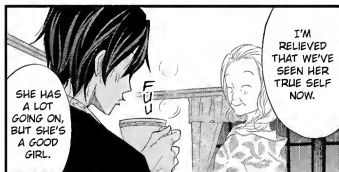
YOUR
CONCERN
OVER
FUMI
WAS
SPOT-
ON.



HIS FACE
IS MORE
OPEN, AND
HE SPEAKS
MORE.

...Q'S
CHANGED
A LITTLE
RECENTLY.

Oof.



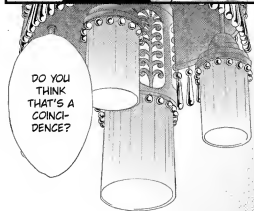
SHE HAS
A LOT
GOING ON,
BUT SHE'S
A GOOD
GIRL.

I'M
RELIEVED
THAT WE'VE
SEEN HER
TRUE SELF
NOW.



GOOD
JOB,
KOICHI.

HEH HEH!
PERHAPS.



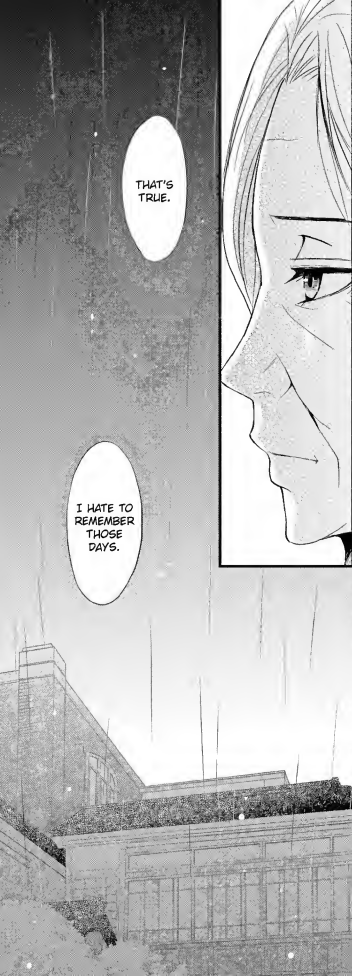
DO YOU
THINK
THAT'S A
COINCIDENCE?



...REMEM-
BER THE
LAST TEN
YEARS?

BUT
SHE
CAN
ONLY...





THAT'S
TRUE.

I HATE TO
REMEMBER
THOSE
DAYS.

TEN YEARS
AGO WAS
WHEN...

...THE
MASTER
AND
MISTRESS
OF THIS
HOUSE...

...DIED
OF THE
BYAKOMON
DISEASE.



AND
SO...



CREAK



...LATE
THE
NEXT
NIGHT...

...WHEN
THE
MOON
WAS
RISING...

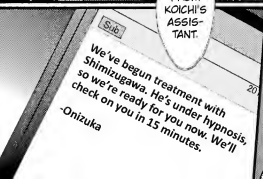


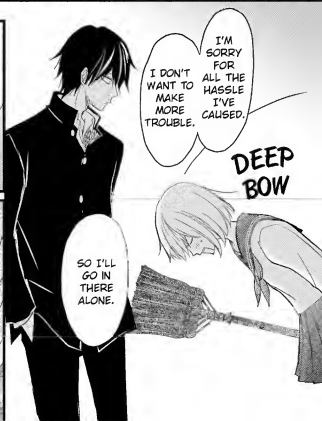
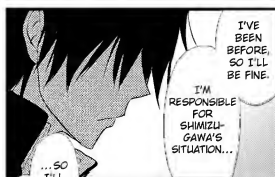
Y200Z Y200Z

SHIMIZU-
GAWA'S
HERE
FOR HIS
APPOINT-
MENT.

IT'S
ONI-
ZUKA.









NO EXCUSES!
DON'T SHRUG OFF
HOW DANGEROUS
IT IS!

KEEP QUIET
AND DO
EXACTLY
WHAT I TELL
YOU. DON'T
WANDER
OFF. UNDER-
STAND?



HOW
MANY
TIMES
HAVE I
TOLD YOU
NOT TO
GO IN?

WHY
CAN'T YOU
LEARN?
ARE THERE
HOLES
IN YOUR
HEAD?

I-I'M
SORRY!
BUT-



HUH?

WE
CAN'T
JUST
WALTZ
IN.

FIRST
THINGS
FIRST.



SLOW,
DEEP
BREATHS
THROUGH
YOUR
NOSE.

CLOSE
YOUR
EYES.

'KAY.

DON'T
REPLY.

And
quit
pouting.

LIKE
THAT.
NOW
FOCUS
ON YOUR
RIGHT
HAND.

GOOD.



W-WHY?

WE
NEED
TO PRE-
PARE.
SIT
OVER
THERE.

JUST
DO AS
I TELL
YOU.

FINE.



DO YOU
FEEL
OKAY?

YES...



THE
CENTER
OF YOUR
BODY
IS...

...FULL
OF
WARMTH.



GOOD.
NOW,
LISTEN
CLOSELY.



WHEN I
COUNT TO
THREE,
YOU'LL
STAND UP
NORMALLY.

ONE
...

TWO
...



AH...

YOUR
RIGHT
HAND'S
GETTING
HEAVIER.

IT'S
GETTING
WARMER.

YOUR
LEFT
HAND IS
GETTING
HEAVI-
ER...
WARM-
ER...

AND
YOUR
RIGHT
FOOT...
AND
LEFT
FOOT
...

YOU
CAN'T
MOVE.

THE
VOICE
IN MY
EAR...

YOUR
BREATH-
ING IS
SLOWER
...

...IS
FLOWING
RIGHT
INTO ME.

DEEPER
...





YOU
FOLLOW
ME?

AND
THAT'S
YOURS.

I MEAN
THAT...



THIS...

...IS MY
SPIRIT.



WHAT
THE-?!

WE'VE
STEPPED
OUT OF
OUR
BODIES
FOR A
BIT.

ONLY AN UNENCUMBERED SPIRIT CAN GET THROUGH THAT DOOR.

OUR BODIES CAN'T GO THERE.

...WHEN WE GO TO THE INSIDE, IT'S THE WORLD OF OUR SPIRITS.

YOUR SPIRIT PROBABLY SLIPPED OUT BECAUSE YOU'D BEEN THROUGH SO MUCH.

SHOCK

I WHAT?!

Eye whites...

WHICH MEANS THAT, WHEN YOU FIRST WENT THROUGH, YOU LEFT YOUR BODY OUT HERE.

AS LONG AS WE HAVE FAITH.

BUT THE GOOD NEWS IS...

Here are your gloves and mask.

BUT ISN'T THIS...

...KIND OF DANGEROUS?

OF COURSE. WORST CASE, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO GET BACK INTO OUR BODIES.

OUR WILLPOWER MIGHT FADE, AND INJURIES WOULD MAKE US UNSTABLE.

...BASICALLY...

...ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.

SHU



YOU SEE
ME EVERY
DAY. IT'S
BEEN ONLY
A FEW
HOURS.

ME-OW

HEH
HEH! IT
HASN'T
BEEN SO
LONG.



IT'S
THE...
...
TALKING
OWL!

OOH!

HELLO,
FUMI.
HOW
ARE YOU
DOING?

IT'S
BEEN A
WHILE!
THANKS
FOR YOUR
HELP
BEFORE.



...
"GRANNY,"
JUST LIKE
ALWAYS.



KYUTARO
CALLS ME
"SENDAI"
WHEN I'M
IN THIS
FORM.

BUT
YOU
MAY AS
WELL
CALL
ME...

HUH?





B-BMP

IT IS X
MINUTES
AFTER 0
O'CLOCK. WE
ARE ENTERING
THE INSIDE
THROUGH
CENTRAL
GENBU GATE
NO. 4.

THANK
YOU
VERY
MUCH.

B-BMP

...I HAVE
TRAINEE
FUMI
NISHIOKA.

I AM
KYUTARO
HORIKITA,
CUSTODIAN OF
THE GENBU
GATE AND
ASSISTANT
TO THE 38TH
LEADER OF
THE KITA CLAN.
WITH MY GEN-
DAI, MIYAKO
HORIKITA...



BUT I
HAVE TO
DO MY
BEST.

...AND THE
BIZARRE
WORLD
THROUGH
THE
DOORWAY.

...OF
THE
BUGS...

I'M A
LITTLE
AFRAID...



IT'LL
BE
OKAY.





WHY
IS IT...

DON'T
WORRY.
I'LL
PROTECT
YOU.

JUST DO
EXACTLY
AS I SAY.

...THAT
WHEN I
LOOK UP
AND SEE
HIM, WITH
HIS LONG
LASHES...

DON'T
LET GO
OF MY
HAND.

...AND
WHEN I
FEEL HOW
GENTLE HIS
HAND IS...

...I FEEL
NOSTALGIC...

...FOR JUST
A MOMENT?





SWEEP9



IT FEELS
AWFUL. AND
THEN IT'S
LIKE I... I'M
BOGGED
DOWN IN A
SWAMP.

THEY
GET
INSIDE
ME...

I'M
CONSTANTLY
SURROUNDED
...

...BY
THESE
BLACK
BUGS.

I CAN'T
CONTROL
MY OWN
BODY.

...THROUGH
MY EYES,
MY EARS,
MY
MOUTH...

I DO
HORRIBLE
THINGS
TO OTHER
PEOPLE...

The talking owl that appeared in
volume 1 was Kyutaro's grandmother!

Sendai = Granny = Grandmother =
Miyako Horikita = talking owl

I'm sorry she has so many names.

You may wonder why I've been referring to
her using the term for an owl without ears,
since she does have tufts, instead of using the
word for a horned owl. From what I've learned,
there isn't actually much of a difference!
And in the world of this story, where anything
is possible, this owl's coloring and size varies
with each appearance. There's no deep
meaning. It's just an artistic weakness.

Older people tend to focus
on how important it is to
carry a handkerchief or
tissues. I use them here
for comic effect, but I do
think it's good manners to
have some with you.





TING

NOW
...

...YOU'VE
REACHED
THE
BOTTOM
FLOOR.

YOU
ARE...

...INSIDE
YOUR
MIND
VAULT.

TING

LOOK
AROUND.
CAN YOU
SEE ANY-
THING?

TING

...
BREATHE
OUT.
WITH
EVERY
BREATH
...

TING

...FEEL
YOUR
BODY
GETTING
HEAVIER.

TING

FEEL
YOURSELF
SINKING
DOWN...

TING

...LIKE A
DESCEND-
ING
ELEVATOR.

TING

TING

NOW,
INHALE
AND
EXHALE
...

TING

...TO
THE
SOUND
OF THE
BELL.

BREATHE
IN...



OPEN IT
FOR THE
PEOPLE...

...WHO
ARE GOING
TO COME
HELP YOU.

DO YOU
SEE A
DOOR?

T-
ZG

BE
BRAVE
NOW.

GO
AHEAD
AND
UNLOCK
THE
DOOR.

A YOUNG
MAN AND
WOMAN
WITH AN
OWL ARE
COMING.

T-
ZG

IS
THERE
SOME-
THING
BAD
THERE
?

T-
ING

NHN
...

AH
...

T-
ING

YOU'RE
FINE.
BREATHE.

YOU'RE
HOLDING
A BELL.
YOU'RE
SAFE.

KEEP
LOOKING
AROUND.

T-
ING

T-
ING



THEY
WILL
CLEANSE
YOUR
HEART...

...OF
GRIME
AND
INSECTS.

THEY ARE
SWEEPERS.



WE'LL
FOLLOW
THE
SOUND
TO
SHIMIZU-
GAWA'S
MIND
VAULT.

HEAR
THAT
BELL?



IT'S A
BIT LIKE
ANESTHE-
TIZING A
PATIENT
FOR
SURGERY.

WHEN YOU
ENTER SOME-
ONE ELSE'S
MIND, THERE'S
A LOT OF
RESISTANCE
...

...BUT
KOICHI'S
MAKING IT
EASIER FOR
US TO
GET IN.





HEY,
NISHIOKA.

ARE YOU
LISTEN-
ING?



SOME-
THING
AWFUL
WILL
PROBABLY
HAPPEN

IT'S SO
EERIE.
PERFECT
FOR A
CURSED
GIRL,
HUH?

...IF I GET
KYUTARO
AND THE
OTHERS
INVOLVED
...



SMOOSH



SO,
UM...
CAN I...

...ASK
YOU A
QUES-
TION?

SURE.



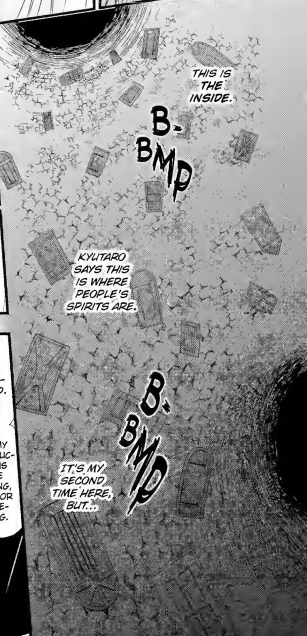
S-
SORRY!

You're
not
boring
...

AND...I'M
A LOUSY
SINGER...

DON'T
GET DIS-
TRACTED.

IF MY INSTRU-
CTIONS
ARE BORING,
SING OR SOMETHING.



THIS IS
THE
INSIDE.

B-
BMP

KYUTARO
SAYS THIS
IS WHERE
PEOPLE'S
SPIRITS ARE.

B-
BMP

IT'S MY
SECOND
TIME HERE,
BUT...



IT'S
THE
UNCON-
SCIOUS.



THE
DEEP
PSYCHE.

B-
BMP

THE
COLLECTIVE
UNCON-
SCIOUS.

THE
ID.



DO YOU
KNOW
WHAT I'M
TALKING
ABOUT?

IT'S
PART
OF ALL
THOSE
THINGS.



IF THIS
HUGE
OPEN
SPACE...

...ISN'T
INSIDE
ANYONE'S
MIND...?



...REALLY
LEAD TO
PEOPLE'S
MINDS?

DO
ALL OF
THOSE
DOORS...

THEY
DO.



AND
THEY'RE
NOT IN
FIXED
LOCATIONS.
IT
DEPENDS
ON THEIR
RELATION-
SHIPS WITH
OTHERS.

THE
SIZE AND
SHAPE
OF THE
DOOR
DEPENDS
ON THE
PERSON.

WE CALL
THEM
MIND
VAULTS.



I-
I SEE.

The mind
only has
one
room,
but
that's
okay.

IT'S
NOT
TOO
CLEAR,
BUT I
UNDER-
STAND.



...ARE
WE
NOW?

BUT
WHERE
...



GRANNY!

FLAP

But the usual definitions don't really apply...

"Id" is Latin.

AH.

Sorry.

NOT AT ALL.

I DON'T THINK I'M EXPLAINING VERY WELL.

"Id"?

THE KEY THING IS...

THERE'S NO NEED TO THINK SO HARD ON IT.

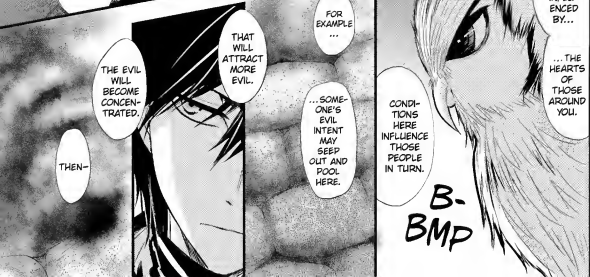
DON'T WORRY, FUMI.



...IN UNCONSCIOUS PLACES LIKE THIS.

... EVERYONE'S SPIRITS ARE CONNECTED ...

THAT'S ALL.



THINGS HERE ARE INFLUENCED BY...

... THE HEARTS OF THOSE AROUND YOU.

CONDITIONS HERE INFLUENCE THOSE PEOPLE IN TURN.

B-BMP

FOR EXAMPLE ...

THAT WILL ATTRACT MORE EVIL.

... SOMEONE'S EVIL INTENT MAY SEEP OUT AND POOL HERE.

THE EVIL WILL BECOME CONCENTRATED.

THEN-



BOSS
KYUTARO,
GRANNY,
PLEASE
STAY
BACK!

I'LL
HANDLE
THIS.

DON'T
WORRY.
I'LL
PUNCH
THEM
LIKE LAST
TIME--

IT MUST BE
BECAUSE
OF MY
CURSE. I
HAVE TO
DO SOME-
THING!

AIEE!!

HERE
COME THE
BUGS! AND
THEY'RE
HUGE!

I'VE NEVER
SEEN
THESE
GUYS
BEFORE!

*SHE DOESN'T REALIZE
THEY WERE IN THE BACK-
GROUND LAST TIME.





THEIR
TOXINS
CAN
AFFECT
YOU
THOUGH,
SO IT'S
A PAIN.

THEY'RE
BIG AND
UGLY
BUT
EASY
TO
SCARE.

BUGS
LIKE
THAT
ARE
COM-
MON
DOWN
HERE.



ALL
RIGHT.

I THINK
THE
COAST
IS
CLEAR.



CCIS

SKS--

B-
BMP

HE'S
RIGHT.



SORRY
I WAS
SO
ROUGH.

THAT
BUG
WAS
AFTER
YOU.

I WAS
FINE
THAT
TIME
I HIT
ONE...

HOW
COME?

IT'S
HOT...
AND
ITCHY.

FINOB

MY KNEE
FEELS
WEIRD
WHERE IT
TOUCHED
ME.

...AND
OTHER
PEOPLE GET
DRAGGED
INTO IT.

I ATTRACT
WEIRD
BUGS...

BAD
THINGS KEEP
HAPPENING.

I GUESS...

...I
REALLY
AM...

...CURSED.

OH...



IT'S... ALL BETTER.

"Be kind to girls," right?

Ugh. People are such a hassle.

I'M FEELING WAY BETTER TOO.

It's not that bad. Just try harder!





IT'S
JUST
THAT TOO
MANY
THINGS ARE
STRESSING
YOU OUT.

HOW
...



THERE
ARE NO
CURSES
ON YOU,
OKAY?



...BUT I
DO KNOW
YOU'RE NOT
LITERALLY
CURSED.



I DON'T
KNOW
WHAT A
"CURSED
GIRL" IS,
EXACTLY...



WE
HAVE
THE
SIGHT.

WE
JUST
KNOW.

I-

HOW
DO YOU
KNOW
THAT?



IT WAS
JUST IN
FRONT
OF YOU.



YOU SAW
IT TOO,
RIGHT?



THAT WAS
STRONG,
CONCENTRATED
EVIL.



...AND
TRIED TO
TAKE OVER
THAT
PERSON'S
WILL AND
DESTINY.



IT WENT
AFTER AN
INJURED,
WEAKENED
HEART...



WE CALL
IT A BUG,
AND IT'S
LIKE A
MAGGOT.

...IT
TAKES A
PECULIAR
FORM.

BUT HERE
WHERE
THERE ARE
SO MANY
GATES...

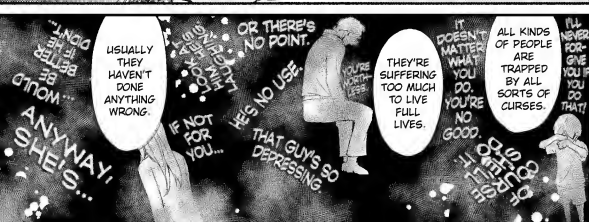
THAT'S
WHAT GETS
CALLED A
"CURSE"
IN THE
NORMAL
WORLD.



...ALL
AROUND
US.

THERE
ARE
BUGS...

...AND
CURSES...



USUALLY
THEY
HAVEN'T
DONE
ANYTHING
WRONG.

OR THERE'S
NO POINT.

THEY'RE
SUFFERING
TOO MUCH
TO LIVE
FULL
LIVES.

IT
DOESN'T
MATTER
WHAT
YOU
DO.
YOU'RE
NO
GOOD.

ALL KINDS
OF PEOPLE
ARE
TRAPPED
BY ALL
SORTS OF
CURSES.

I'LL
NEVER
FORGIVE
YOU IF
YOU
DO
THAT!

HE'S NO USE.

THAT GUY'S SO
DEPRESSING.

IF NOT
FOR
YOU...

ANYWAY!
SHE'S...



WE'LL
TEACH
YOU HOW
TO DO IT—

...TO
HELP
PEOPLE
LIKE THAT.

IT'S OUR
JOB AS
SWEEPERS...



WE
KNOW
MORE
THAN
MOST.

I SEE.

...AND
SAVE
PEOPLE
FROM
THEM.

AH...

HOW TO
PROTECT
YOURSELF
FROM
CURSES...



YOU DON'T
NEED TO BE
SCARED OF
CURSES.

THESE
PEOPLE
KNOW...

WE'LL
TEACH YOU
EVERYTHING.

THEY
KNOW
WHAT I
WANT TO
FIGHT...

ALL THE
HORRIBLE
INTENTIONS
BOMBARDING
YOU AREN'T
THINGS
TO BE
FRIGHTENED
OF.

THE REAL
YOU IS
MUCH,
MUCH
STRONGER
THAN THEY
ARE.

SO DON'T
WORRY.

...AND
HOW
TO
FIGHT
IT!

...EXACTLY
WHAT I
WANT
MOST.

G-N-T



THERE ARE
OTHER
PLACES
THAT HAVE
GATES.

THEY
CONNECT
TO THE
INSIDE
JUST
LIKE
OURS
DOES.

THE
SWEEPERS
IN THOSE
AREAS ARE
IN CHARGE
THERE.

IT'S ALL
DIVIDED INTO
FOUR
GENERAL
AREAS-
SEIRYU GATE,
BYAKKO GATE,
SUZAKU GATE
AND GENBU
GATE.

MOST
SWEEPERS
BELONG
TO ONE
OF THESE
GROUPS.

WE
ARE?

THE
BELL IS
GETTING
LOUDER.
WE'RE
NEARLY
THERE.

WOW,
THIS
PLACE IS
GIGANTIC.

IT
GOES
ON
FOREVER.

That
seems
like a
huge
job.

THAT'D
BE IMPOSSIBLE.

NO
WAY.

ARE YOU
THE ONLY
ONES
RESPONSIBLE
FOR THIS
WHOLE
PLACE?



And honestly,
I'm not
interested in
learning about
them. Too
much hassle.

Really?

THE
HISTORY
GOES
WAY
BACK.

THE
KITA
CLAN IS
PART OF
GENBU
GATE.

EACH
SPOT'S
GUARDIANS
HAVE THEIR
OWN
WAY OF
KEEPING
THINGS
CLEAN.

I DON'T
KNOW
MUCH
ABOUT
OTHER
CLANS.

GENBU...

BYAKKO...

SEIRYU...

FOUR
GATES...

SLIZAKU...

TSUDA



THIS
IS A
SPECIAL
CASE SINCE
OUR
SPIRITS
ARE
EXPOSED
IN HERE...

WE'RE
MORE
SUSCEPTIBLE
TO OTHER
THINGS,
BOTH BUGS
AND PEOPLE.

YOU'RE
WAY
MORE
RELAXED
NOW.

KEEP
FOCUSING
ON MY
HAND.

OKAY...

KIND OF,
ESPECIALLY
IF WE'RE
TOUCHING.

BUT IT'S
ONLY A
GENERAL
FEELING.

I can't
literally
hear your
thoughts.

ARE YOU
SAYING
YOU CAN
READ MY
MIND?

HMM
?



HUH?
YOU
DID?

BUT I
WASN'T
REALLY
...

I FELT A
SMALL
TREMOR.

WHAT
WERE
YOU
THINKING
ABOUT?

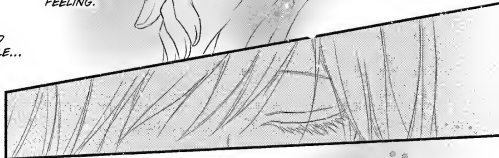




I'M SO
AWARE OF
WHERE
WE'RE
TOUCHING.

IT'S SUCH
A GENTLE
FEELING.

COOL AND
COMFORTABLE...



...LIKE
DANGLING
MY HAND IN
A BROOK.

MY MIND IS
CALMING
DOWN.

IT'S SOOTHING
AWAY ANY
UNCERTAINTY
OR ANXIETY.

NOW...



IT'S
YOUR OWN
MENTAL
STRENGTH
TOO.

NO, NOT
ENTIRELY.

HOLD FAST
TO YOUR
CONFIDENCE.

...
HERE
WE
ARE.



OH, NO-
KYUTARO'S
DOING IT.

SUCH DEEP
CONCENTRATION
IS A GOOD SIGN.

I'D SAY
YOU'RE A
NATURAL
AT THIS.



IT FEELS
STRANGE
BUT
GOOD.

I'VE
FELT
THIS
BEFORE
...

I feel
calmer
and
calmer...



YOU
SEEM
MUCH
BETTER,
FUMI.

BUT
WHEN?
NOT
THAT
LONG
AGO...



WE'LL
SHOW
RESPECT...

...BY
DOING A
THOROUGH
JOB.

WE'VE
REACHED
REN
SHIMIZU-
GAWA'S
MIND VAULT.



WILL YOU
HELP US
SAVE HIM?

...IN THE
GRIP OF
A CURSE.

BUT HE
TRULY IS
SUFFERING...

THERE
MUST BE
ANOTHER
CAUSE.

...FOR
HIS
INFESTA-
TION.

YOU'RE
NOT
RESPON-
SIBLE...

FUMI.



I WANT
TO BE
ABLE TO
DO MY
PART
HERE.

OF
COURSE.





TRY TO
STAY
CALM.

EXCUSE
ME.



WE
FOLLOWED
THE SOUND
OF YOUR
BELL AND ARE
HERE TO
HELP CLEAR
OUT THE
SHADOWS.

WE ARE
SWEEPERS.



YOU'RE REN
SHIMIZU-
GAWA?



YEAH.
AND
THERE
HE IS.

I THINK
HE'S
SOME-
WHAT
AWARE.
LET'S
GO.

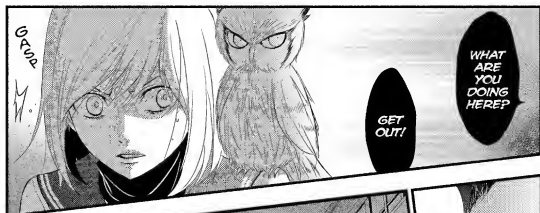
IT'S
LIKE A
COUNTRY
HOME.



LEAVE
EVERY-
THING
TO US.

WE'LL GO
ABOUT
THINGS
QUICKLY.
WE WON'T
HARM YOU.

I KNOW
THIS
PLACE IS
SACRED TO
YOU. FORGIVE
THE INTRU-
SION.



GET
OUT!

WHAT
ARE
YOU
DOING
HERE?

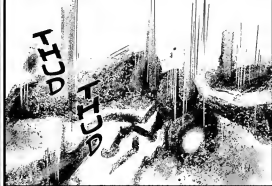


LEAVE,
OR
WE'LL
KILL
YOU.

STAY
BACK.

HERE
THEY
COME.







...WHERE
YOU
FIRST
HAD THAT
FEELING?

DO YOU
REMEM-
BER...

YES. THE
FIRST DAY
YOU CAME
TO US.



YES,
LIKE
THAT.
YOU'RE
DOING
WELL.

KEEP
REACHING
DEEPER
AND
DEEPER.

THAT
GOOD
FEELING
WILL HELP
YOU, SO
FILL YOUR
HEART
WITH IT.



JUST LIKE
BEFORE...

GENTLE...

...AND
PURE...

OH...



...WHOLEHEARTEDLY
INTO CLEANING.

I THREW
MYSELF...

WE
CALLED
IT A
TEST.

YOU DID
YOUR BEST
TO MEET
KYUTARO'S
STANDARDS.



TRUE, IT'S
A SMALL
THING, BUT
IT'S AS
VITAL AS
PROTECTING
THE
WORLD.

SOME
PEOPLE
ARE
DISMISSIVE
OF
CLEANING.



WE
PROTECT
PEOPLE'S
HEARTS.

I'M SO
HAPPY.



I DID A
GOOD
JOB.

YOU HAVE
PROTECTED
MANY
HEARTS.

NOW, BE
CONFIDENT.



YOU
CLEANED SO
THOROUGHLY
AND
LOVINGLY...

...THAT
THE ROOM
REFLECTED
THOSE
FEELINGS.

IT WAS A
GIFT GIVEN
TO YOU BY
THE ROOM
ITSELF.



YES,
THAT'S
RIGHT.

THE
AIR FELT
LIKE IT
HAD BEEN
RENEWED.

THE
ROOM
ITSELF
SEEMED
HAPPY.

I FELT
LIKE I'D
DONE A
GOOD
THING.



THAT'S
HER.
KILL
HER!

HER.

KILL
HER.



BRING
THAT
FEELING
IN HERE
WITH
YOU.

WIELD
YOUR
BROOM
TENDERLY.







...GZ-D



...GZ-D



2-3-3

2-3-3



...GZ-D





ARGH,
I'M
BEGGING
YOU—

...TARO
...



THE JOB
ISN'T OVER
UNTIL WE
GET HOME.
I MEAN IT!

IT'S A PAIN
IF YOU LOSE
CONSCIOUS-
NESS. CUT
IT OUT!



THANK
YOU SO
MUCH...

...
KYUTARO.

THANKS
FOR
TEACHING
ME TO
CLEAN.



HEH!
I'M SO
HAPPY.

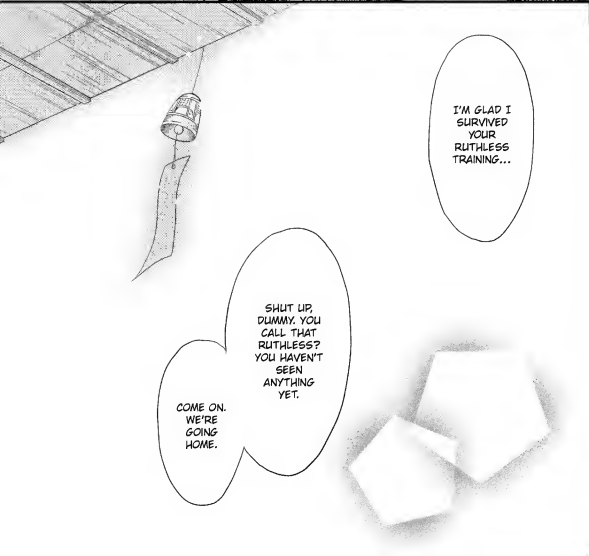
I DID IT
RIGHT.

I GOT
RID OF
THE
CURSE...



...I
MET YOU,
KYUTARO.

I'M SO
GLAD...



I'M GLAD I
SURVIVED
YOUR
RUTHLESS
TRAINING...

SHUT UP,
DUMMY. YOU
CALL THAT
RUTHLESS?
YOU HAVEN'T
SEEN
ANYTHING
YET.

COME ON.
WE'RE
GOING
HOME.

QQ'S NONSENSE STORY

About this panel
in Sweep 8. →

I debated long and hard (okay, about eight minutes) about whether to dress him like this. According to what I wrote in volume 1, he should have been dressed like this! I hate that it's only volume 2, and I've already changed my mind.

But...then I thought that she probably wouldn't want to listen if a man dressed like this ordered her back inside.

I love putting him in weird clothes, so I wish they wouldn't have such serious conversations.



SWEEP 10



IT'S
SWEET...

IT'S
STRANGE.

IT'S...
SNOWING?

...AND
SOFT.

THE
AIR IS
COLD...

OH...
I GUESS...

...I'M HAVING
A DREAM.

...BUT
I FEEL
WARM.

What can I say? Until I began this series, I didn't think much about how lots of people hate bugs. I don't hate bugs personally (I kind of like them, actually), but I think I'm in the minority there.

If you're a bug-hater, I'm afraid there may be a lot of scenes that you'll find unpleasant. So I'm very grateful to those of you who read this story anyway! I'll do my very best to make the bugs look pretty from now on.

Is this so bad?
I think it's
cute...like
a meat bun...

No one likes
bugs, but this
larval type is
the worst!

When
it first
appeared in
volume 1,
Sweep 2,
I think a lot
of people
were taken
aback.
I'm sorry.

They'll probably
keep appearing
though.
Sorry...



Huh?

FOOSH



I'M SO
LUCKY...

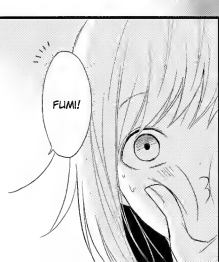


K-
KYUTARO?!
WHAT-

DON'T
SAY A
WORD.
JUST
GET OFF
MY LAP.

FINALLY
AWAKE,
ARE YOU?

HUH?!
OH!



FUM!



I-I'M
SORRY.
I DON'T
KNOW
WHAT I
DID...

...BUT
I-

I used
you as a
pillow....?

WHAT'S
WITH YOU?
CAN'T YOU
SLEEP
IN ONE
POSITION?

LET'S GO
HOME.
I HAD A
HECK OF
A TIME
BRINGING
YOU OUT.



HOW DID
IT GO
ON THE
INSIDE?

THANKS
FOR
YOUR
HELP.

KOICHI!!



LOOKS LIKE
YOU DEALT
WITH THE
INFESTATION
THOROUGHLY.

HE HAS
THE
USUAL
SIGNS
OF BEING
CURED.

SHIMIZU-
GAWA
WOKE
UP NOT
LONG
AGO.



BETTER
THAN I
EXPECTED.

BUT I
GUESS
SHE DID
WELL
OVER-
ALL.

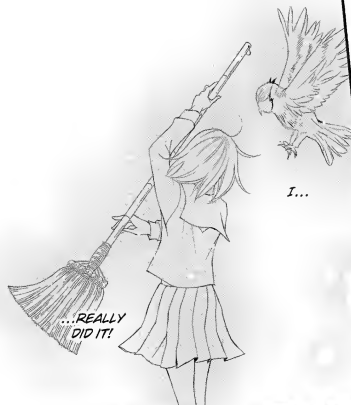
WELL,
SHE
PASSED
OUT COLD
AT THE
END.

HOW
DID
FUMI
DO,
Q?

DID YOU
RUN INTO
TROUBLE?

I SEE.

?



I...

...REALLY
DID IT!



LAST
NIGHT
WE
SAID-

B-BUT
AFTER
THIS
JOB, I-



BUT
LET'S
GO.

YES,
WE
DID.



YOU DID
A GOOD
JOB,
FUMI.

YOU
MUST
BE
TIRED.

WHY
DON'T
WE ALL
HEAD
HOME?

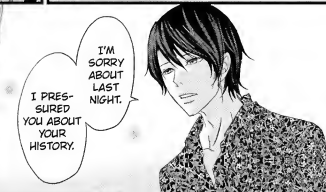


I BET
SENDAI HAS
A BATH AND
A MIDNIGHT
SNACK
READY.

LET'S ALL
GO HOME
TOGETHER.









WE HAVE THE
EXPERIENCE
TO DEAL WITH
WHATEVER'S
PLAGUING
YOU.

WE ARE
SWEEPERS.

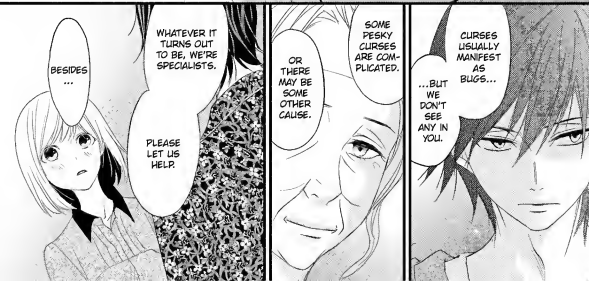
I DON'T
THINK
YOU
WOULD'VE
UNDER-
STOOD
THEN...

...BUT
I THINK
YOU
WILL
NOW.



... WE
SHOULD
BE ABLE
TO HELP.

IF YOU
WANT TO
FIND OUT
WHY YOU'VE
ALWAYS
BEEN
SEEN AS
CURSED...



BESIDES
...

WHATEVER IT
TURNS OUT
TO BE, WE'RE
SPECIALISTS.

PLEASE
LET US
HELP.

OR
THERE
MAY BE
SOME
OTHER
CAUSE.

SOME
PECKY
CURSES
ARE COM-
PLICATED.

CURSES
USUALLY
MANIFEST
AS
BUGS...

...BUT
WE
DON'T
SEE
ANY IN
YOU.



WILL YOU
RECON-
SIDER?

WE'D BE
SAD TO
SEE YOU
GO.

...WE'VE
ALL BEEN
HAPPY TO
HAVE YOU
HERE.



HARD?!
WHAT'S
HARD
ABOUT
IT?

WELL,
I GUESS
IT'S A
HARD
DECISION-

YOU
CAN'T
DECIDE
?



...



GETTING
UPSET
AND
WORKED
UP WON'T
HELP.



IF YOU
DON'T
LIKE
SOME-
THING,
TELL US!

WE'RE
OFFERING
TO TEACH
YOU—



NOW,
KYUTARO.

THIS IS
FUMI'S
PROBLEM.
SHE GETS
TO DECIDE
HOW TO
DEAL
WITH IT.



I'M
GOING
TO
BED.
NIGHT.

KYUTARO
...



SOUND
GOOD?

IT'S
LATE.

IT
DOES,
YES,
THANK
YOU.

SLEEP
ON IT,
AND LET
US KNOW
TOMOR-
ROW,
FUMI.



I
GUESS.

AND
YOU,
KYU-
TARO?

DO
WHAT-
EVER.



DON'T WORRY.
HE'LL BE FINE.

...



HE'S ALWAYS MAD BECAUSE I MAKE TROUBLE FOR HIM...

HUH? I DON'T THINK SO.

And he always smooches my face.

HE MUST REALLY WANT YOU TO STAY.



HE WASN'T SEEMED SO...

...EXPRESSIVE IN AGES.



YEARS AGO...



SOME THINGS WENT WRONG...

...WE, AS SWEEPERS, FACED QUITE A CHALLENGE.

...AND KYUTARO, WHO WAS ONLY A CHILD, WAS HOME ALONE FOR A LONG TIME.



THE THING IS...

...Q PUTS UP A GOOD FRONT...

...BUT HE HATES TO BE ALONE.





...IN
THE OLD
SCHOOL
BUILDING.

...WE
FOUND HIM
ON THE
FLOOR
OF THAT
PARTICULAR
ROOM...

..."FUYU
WENT
THROUGH
THE DOOR.

"I
COULDN'T
STOP
HER.

"SHE
HASN'T
COME
BACK."

HE WAS
UPSET AND
DELIRIOUS.
HE KEPT
REPEATING...



...BUT WE
COULDN'T
FIND HIS
FRIEND.

WE COULDN'T
EVEN FIND ANY
INDICATION
THAT SHE'D
EXISTED AT
ALL.

HE HAD A
HIGH FEVER
THAT LEFT
HIM VERY
WEAK AND
ILL.

HE WAS
BEDRIDDEN
FOR QUITE
A WHILE.

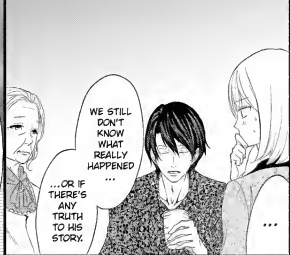
WE
SEARCHED
EVERY-
WHERE
DURING
THAT
TIME...



...THE
GIRL WE
COULDN'T
FIND MEANS
SO MUCH
TO HIM...

BUT
WHAT
REALLY
MATTERS
IS...

...THAT
HE'S NEVER
FORGOTTEN
HER.



WE STILL
DON'T
KNOW
WHAT
REALLY
HAPPENED

...OR IF
THERE'S
ANY
TRUTH
TO HIS
STORY.

...



I THINK
HE STILL
BELIEVES,
DEEP
DOWN...

...THAT
HE'LL SEE
HER AGAIN
SOMEDAY.



I
THINK
I CAN
SEE...

NO,
IT'S
NOT
YOUR
FAULT.

I'M
SORRY FOR
DISCUSSING
UPSETTING
THINGS.



Y-YOU
THINK
SO?

I'M
SORRY
...

HER DISAP-
PEARANCE
AND YOUR
HISTORY
MAY BE
OVERLAP-
PING IN HIS
MIND...

...MAKING
HIM FEEL
EVEN
LONELIER.





A
SWEEPER'S
WORK
WEARS
DOWN THE
SPIRIT.

A TIRED
MIND IS
ESPECIALLY
VULNERABLE
TO MALICE
AT NIGHT.

THEY'RE
NOT JUST
WORDS,
YOU KNOW.



WE'VE
LEARNED
THAT'S
THE BEST
WAY TO
DEAL WITH
CURSES.

YOU
SHOULD
CURL
UP WITH
SOMEONE.

WHEN
THAT
HAPPENS,
DON'T TRY
TO FIGHT
IT ALONE.



I FEEL
PEACEFUL...

...COME
TO ANY
OF US
FOR
HELP.

IF THAT
HAPPENS
...

THEY'RE
SO
KIND...

...BUT
THAT'S
NOT ALL.



...BUT
JUST
MAYBE...

I'VE
ALWAYS
BEEN
CALLED A
"CURSED
GIRL"...

IF I STAY
HERE,
MAYBE
I CAN
CHANGE.

...BUT IN A
DIFFERENT
WAY FROM
BEFORE.

...MY
PRECIOUS
CURSED
GIRL?

THE EGG
INSIDE
YOU IS
GROWING.

YOU
ARE A
LIAR
AND...

YOU THINK
YOU CAN
CHANGE?
FOOL!

NO ONE
CAN
BREAK
YOUR
CURSE.

...A
FILTHY...

...TRAITOR.

WE'LL
NEVER
PERMIT
YOUR
HAPPINESS.

ABANDON
YOUR
HOPES.

YOU
KNOW
THAT'S
TRUE,
DON'T
YOU...

THE
MORE
YOU
THINK
ABOUT
IT...

...THE
MORE
YOU'LL
HURT THE
ONE WHO
MATTERS
MOST TO
YOU.

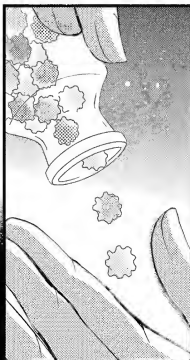
IT'S
ALMOST
THE
END...





"IF YOU
HAVE SCARY
DREAMS..."

"...COME
GET ME."





IT HAS
NOTHING
TO DO
WITH ME.

LET
HER
LEAVE.
SEE IF
I CARE.

HMPH.



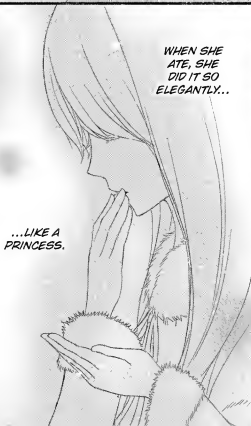
I'VE BEEN
STUCK IN
THE PAST
TOO LONG
ANYWAY.

BUT SO
WHAT IF
SHE IS?

SHE
MIGHT
BE
FUYU.



!!



WHEN SHE
ATE, SHE
DID IT SO
ELEGANTLY...

...LIKE A
PRINCESS.



WHY...

....CAN'T
I FORGET
HER?

I STILL
REMEMBER
HER SO
CLEARLY.





OH...

KYUTARO-



クッ



OH, YOU
DIDN'T
BRING
YOUR
PILLOW?

HUH?
UH,
NO...

IT'S FINE,
I'LL LEND
YOU ONE.
IT'S A TIGHT
SQUEEZE,
BUT DON'T
COMPLAIN.

I WON'T--
WAIT,
WHAT?



YOU'RE
COLD
ALL
OVER.

HE'S
SO
KIND...

I'M
SO
GLAD I
CAME.

IT
MUST'VE
BEEN
REALLY
AWFUL,
HUH?



YOU'RE
NOT DIS-
TURBING
ME.

I'M
SORRY
FOR NOT
LISTENING.

YOU'RE
SAFE
NOW,
DON'T
WORRY.



HUH?
WHAT'S
UP?

W-WAIT
A
MINUTE!

THIS ISN'T
WHAT I
WAS
EXPECTING!



**I KNOW
THAT! I'M
SURPRISED
YOU
KNOW
THAT.**

WHY ARE
YOU TALKING
LIKE I HAVE
NO COMMON
SENSE?!

What the
heck are
you
thinking?.

WHAT'S
WRONG?
WE'RE
JUST
GONNA
SLEEP.

YOU DO
KNOW
SHARING A
BED WON'T
GET YOU
PREGNANT,
RIGHT?

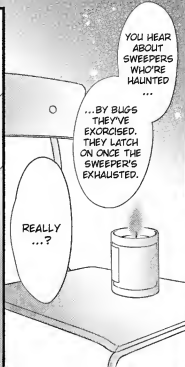


Something
easier for a
first-timer.

I'D
APPRECIATE
THAT.

WANNA
TRY A
DIFFERENT
WAY?

WELL,
WE
DON'T
HAVE
TO DO
THIS.



B-
BMP

THE
SOUND OF
HIS LIFE...

B-
BMP

...SEEMS
TO MELT
INTO
MINE.

SO
WARM.

A STEADY
RHYTHM
CAN
HELP YOU
RELAX.

HIS GENTLE
VOICE AND
HEARTBEAT...

B-
BMP

MY
HEART...

...IS
SETTLING
DOWN.

IT FEELS
GOOD. I
WISH I
COULD
STAY LIKE
THIS.

ALL
RIGHT.

REST
YOUR
HEAD ON
MY NECK.

FEEL MY
PULSE?

...YES.



IF I
COULD
STAY
WITH
HIM...



B-BMP

IT SMELLS LIKE CIDER OR SOMETHING.

... NOSTALGIC.

IT MAKES ME FEEL ...

YOU SMELL KINDA SWEET.

HUH?

I ATE A FEW EARLIER.

IT'S PROBABLY THIS.

OH.

I ATE THESE A LOT WHEN I WAS LITTLE.

I DON'T REALLY—

I took you for a pickles kind of guy.

YOU LIKE THESE, KYUTARO?

That's unexpected.

SOME KIND OF CANDY?

CANDY WHEN YOU'RE LONELY?

DROP IT.

AND SO WHAT? I BRUSH MY TEETH AFTER.

THAT'S A GOOD PLAN.

WHEN I'M FEELING LONELY...

... THEY MAKE ME FEEL BETTER.

YEAH, IT'S KON-PEITO.

THEY'RE SO ADORABLE!



FUYUU
...?

OH,
YEAH.

THE OLD
FRIEND
I TOLD
YOU
ABOUT.

FUYUU
DIDN'T
KNOW
ABOUT
KONPEITO
EITHER.



THIS
STUFF'S
BEEN
AROUND
FOR
AGES.

YOU'VE
NEVER
HAD
ANY?

CANDY
THESE
DAYS
SURE
LOOKS
PRETTY.
High-tech!



FUYUU
LOVED
IT. SHE
THOUGHT
THEY WERE
TASTY.

IT WAS
PRETTY
POPULAR.

BACK
THEN,
THIS WAS
THE ONLY
CANDY
WE HAD.



There
are
lots of
flavors.

Blue
tastes
like
cider,
huh?

IF
SHE IS
FUYUU...

So are the
pink ones
strawberry?

What
about
the
yellow
ones?

SHE DIDN'T
REACT AT
ALL TO
WHAT I
SAID.

They
taste
like
cider.
It's the
best
flavor.

I
WANTED
HER TO
LIKE ME,
SO I
BROUGHT
SOME
EVERY
DAY.
I ONLY
CARED
ABOUT
THE BLUE
ONES.

YOU
WERE
SUCH
A CUTE
KID!

AND
LOOK
AT YOU
NOW.



I GUESS
THEY'RE NOT
THE SAME...

CAN I
REALLY?
YAY!

And
then
brush
your
teeth.

IF YOU'RE
CURIOUS,
TRY
SOME.

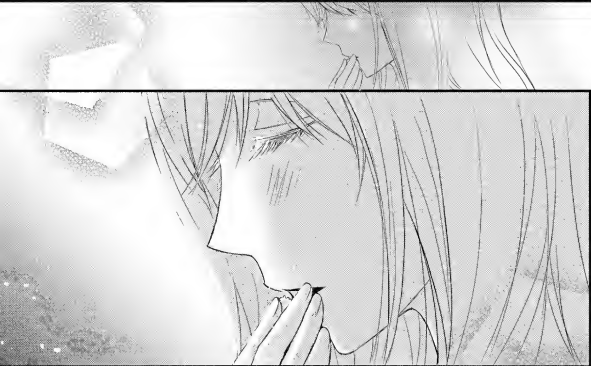
DON'T
EXPECT
TOO MUCH.
THEY'RE
NOT THAT
SPECIAL.

D-G-D



QUIET,
YOU.







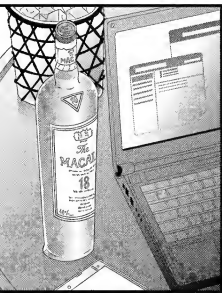
YOU
ARE
FLYING.



YOU'RE
HER.

I'M
ABSOLUTELY
SURE.

I CAN
TELL.



THE
GIRL I
LOVE...

THE
GIRL...

...I
KISSED...







THEY OPPOSE
EVERYTHING
SWEEPERS
STAND FOR.

THEY USE
BUGS AS
THEIR
EYES AND
HANDS...

...CREATING
STRONGER
AND
STRONGER
CURSES TO
CONTROL
PEOPLE.



BUG
HANDLERS.

FOR SOME
REASON...

...ONE'S
AFTER
FUMI.

Hey, Tasuku.
Teru
sounded
really sleepy
this morning.
What's
going on?



Eye pack

Onizuka, Part-time
Counselor

She may seem like a
suspicious person, but
she really isn't. She
gets called in to
work pretty often.

- 165 cm, D-cup,
blood type B
- Young and single
(but well over 20
years old)
- Loves drinking
- She lives with a
gal who's like a
younger sister.
- The guy who lives
in the condo next
door has his hair
dyed blond.

*For more details,
see *Dengeki Daisy*
(16 volumes)!

Afterword



This is the end of QQ Sweeper volume 2.

Thanks so much for reading the whole thing!

For all that this is a story about cleaning, there weren't many cleaning scenes. Actually, there's another theme too, and I want to devote some time to it so you can enjoy reading about it.

Like their author, Fumi and Kyutaro still aren't full-fledged, but I hope you'll watch us grow together. And I hope to see you again in my next volume. Bye for now!





The cover art is the full-color version of a popular black-and-white title page picture! I don't get suggestions like that very often, so I was glad to do it. I'm a lot more nervous working on color pictures than I am with black-and-white ones, so I wound up using a lot of correction tape. I think that's pretty common among manga artists...

—Kyouzuke Motomi

Author Bio

Born on August 1, Kyouzuke Motomi debuted in *Deluxe Betsucomi* with *Hetakuso Kyupiddo* (No Good Cupid) in 2002. She is the creator of *Dengeki Daisy* and *Beast Master*, both available in North America from Viz Media. Motomi enjoys sleeping, tea ceremonies and reading Haruki Murakami.

QQ SWEEPER

VOL. 2

Shojo Beat Edition

STORY AND ART BY
KYOUSUKE MOTOMI

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by Kyoussuke MOTOMI
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QQ SWEEPER is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains suggestive themes.

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